MoU between Iran and Pakistan on Indo-Iran gas project

3197. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Pakistan and Iran has signed a Memorandum of Understanding in Islamabad to undertake a pre-feasibility study for proposed 20,600 kilometer Iran-India Gas pipeline;

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction in this regard; and

(c) what are the other details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAM NAIK): (a) The Government have seen reports that Pakistan and Iran have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for a pre-feasibility study of transit of Iranian gas through Pakistan.

(b) and (c) The proposal of supply of Iranian gas to India is a bilateral matter between India and Iran. The Government of India and the Government of Islamic Republic of Iran have set up an Indo-Iran Joint Committee to examine all aspects relating to import of natural gas from Iran to India through pipeline including on-land and off-shore deep water pipeline outside the continental shelf/margin of Pakistan.

Additional gas requirement of Rajasthan

3198. SHRI AIMADUDDIN AHMED KHAN (DURRU): Will the MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government of Rajasthan has requested M/s GAIL for additional gas to 5 lacs SCMD for a period of 15 years from October, 2002 from OIL/ONGC Wells around Ramgarh for the Ramgarh Gas Thermal Power Station, as against supply of 2 lacs SCMD Gas for 10 years offered by M/s GAIL;

(b) if so, the reasons for requirement of additional gas;

(c) the availability of gas required with M/s GAIL; and